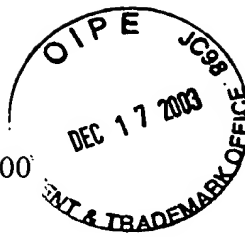


41
Attorney Docket: 021123-0258100

Client Reference: 990228 BT



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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PATENT APPLICATION of:

Confirmation Number: 5657

Dunican *et al.*

Application No.: 09/531,266

Group Art Unit: 1652 ✓

Filed: March 20, 2000

Examiner: D.J. Steadman

Title: New Nucleotide Sequence Which Code for the tal Gene

December 17, 2004

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendments
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to an official action dated October 6, 2003, wherein the pending claims were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph. The applicants respectfully traverse in view of the following amendments and remarks.